

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C4-23-07  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



**Center for Beneficiary Choices**

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DATE: June 7, 2002

TO: All Medicare Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

SUBJECT: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 Electronic Transactions and Code Sets Compliance Extension Plan -- **Information**

The Administrative Simplification Compliance Act (ASCA), P.L. 107-105, signed into law on December 27, 2001 allows covered entities, other than small health plans (whose compliance deadline is already October 16, 2003) to extend the compliance date from October 16, 2002 to October 16, 2003 for the HIPAA Electronic Health Care Transactions and Code Sets Standards, published at 45 C.F.R. 50312, August 17, 2000. Under this legislation, a compliance plan must be submitted before October 16, 2002.

For those Medicare MCOs that request this extension, CMS strongly encourages you to use the Medicare contract number (Hxxxx) as the Medicare Identification number in section A, item 3 of the Electronic Transactions and Code Sets Compliance Extension Plan. The inclusion of the Medicare contract number will assist CMS in identifying which Medicare MCOs have filed for an extension.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Should you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Bitoun at 410-786-7415.

Sincerely,

/s/

Gary A. Bailey  
Director  
Health Plan Benefits Group, CBC